



The BRIDGE

VOLUME LI
NUMBER 27

GAINESVILLE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

JULY 5, 2009



God is amazing and you are responding to God in amazing ways! I must celebrate with you how well we are doing in and through our **Irresistible Invitation** stewardship emphasis. As of this past weekend, the Church Office had received 616 estimates of giving cards for 2009/2010 year of ministry. Those cards total \$2,848,242 for ministry next year. Even in an economic downturn this total is significantly ahead of last year at this same time. Praise God and thank you!

Of the 616 responses, 112 decreased their commitments over the previous year. We knew for some this would be the case and we certainly understand. However 203 commitments were increased. Many stepped up and gave more for the cause of Christ and to help out on behalf of those who could not give as they would have hoped. Thank you for your faith and dedication. There were 122 new estimate of giving cards. Thank you for joining with us in the marvelous journey of serving Christ in the world.

According to our business office, it is a realistic expectation to receive a few more responses. They tell me that it is reasonably possible to receive another 112 responses. If we estimate those commitments based on what they gave this fiscal year, we would receive another \$216,098. This would put our total resources for ministry for this new fiscal year at over \$3,000,000. Add to that what we call our “unpledged or loose plate” offerings conservative \$400,000, then we are celebrating that we can realistically expect revenues of \$3,400,000 for 2009/2010 year of ministry. God is amazing, and you are responding in amazing ways.

Our Church Council is waiting until August to approve the new budget so that all the facts and figures can be known. We need for those of you who have yet responded to please do so within the next few weeks. And with this Sunday we begin our new year of ministry. Let us stay current in our giving so that our ministry can stay strong and courageous.

Remember, “Give and it will be given to you, pressed down, shaken together and running over (Luke 6:38).” It is going to be a good and healthy year.

With Love and Care,

Worship Services

“Lay It Down”
Mark 6:1-13
8:30 a.m. Lakeside &
10:55 a.m. Sanctuary
Dr. Terry Walton

*Loving and Serving God as
We Love and Serve All People*

WHAT’S IN A NAME? SERMON SERIES
“God: Shepherd”
Ezekiel 34:5,12
9:30 a.m. & 10:55 a.m. Living Waters
Rev. Wendy Cordova

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

ATTENDANCE 6/28/2009

8:30 a.m. Lakeside	417
9:30 a.m. Living Waters	36
10:55 a.m. Living Waters	88
10:55 a.m. Sanctuary	285
Worship Totals	826
Sunday School	442

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

In order to protect the privacy of our members we will not print the information that is normally listed under this heading in the online version of *The Bridge*.

If you are a member of GFUMC and would like to have access to this information, please contact Jackie Powers at 770.536.2341.

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

...to **Katherine Andrews**
on the death of her sister.

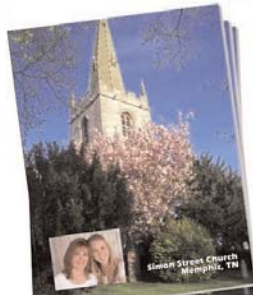
COURTYARD FOUNTAIN

You may have noticed that the fountain in the courtyard has been drained of water and is under repair. A much needed restoration began on June 22. Physical Plant Manager, Allen Eades, estimates that it will take approximately a month to complete the restoration project.

DEAR GFUMC

Thank you so much for your gifts to Aldersgate Homes on Mother's Day and Father's Day honoring the ladies and men of Gainesville First UMC. Your contributions to our ministry are very much appreciated.

Sincerely, Becky Bocian
Aldersgate Homes, Inc.



CHURCH DIRECTORY - SIGN UP ONLINE

Our new pictorial church directory won't be complete without a picture of you. Photography appointments are now being made for a new church directory. Sign up online at www.gfumc.com. Don't have internet access? Don't worry! You may sign up in the Gathering Room before and after worship services or by calling the Church Office at 770.536.2341.

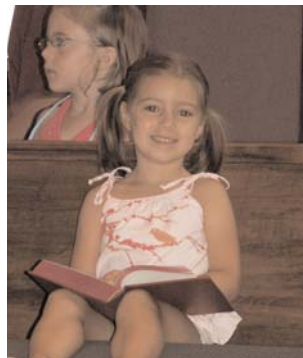
Available Dates for Photography:

Thursday, July 30 - Monday, August 3

Thursday, August 13 - Monday, August 17

Additional dates will be announced.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



What fun we had at Vacation Bible School!!!

For more fun this summer...rising 1st - 6th grades can join us for

WILDERNESS DAY CAMP

July 20 - 24, 2009

8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Registration forms are in the Gathering Room and the Church Office. Forms are due Friday, July 10.

A camp designed to help children foster Christian friendships, grow spiritually as a witness for Christ in our world, and teach them responsibility for God's earth – a gift He entrusted to our care.

Chiggers—For rising first and second grades. Activities include a mission day and trips to American Adventures, Cagle Dairy, Frances Meadows Aquatics Center, and tubing. Cost: \$109.

Crickets—For rising third and fourth grades. Activities include a mission day, an overnight at the Atlanta Zoo, tubing on the river, and fun at Frances Meadows Aquatics Center. Cost: \$119.

Beetles—For rising fifth and sixth grades. Activities include a mission day, "Sleeping with the Sharks" at Ripley's Aquarium in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, and trips to Frances Meadows Aquatics Center and tubing. Cost: \$119.

Register before Friday, July 10! Limited number of spaces available.

1ST PLACE CLASSIFIED ADS

List items for sale,
items you need,
and/or upcoming
garage or yard
sales!



GFUMC's 1st Place Classified Ad listing is intended to help our congregation and visitors to our website, buy and/or sell items. Submit your items for sale online, or use the paper form available on the community bulletin board in the hallway across from the Library. Look for the blue ribbon on the GFUMC website! Make www.gfumc.com your **first place** for classified advertising!

Prayer Focus: Churches and Pastors in Transition



GOLF TOURNAMENT Save the Date!

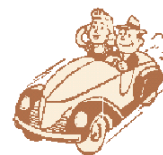
Monday, October 5, 2009
Chattahoochee Golf Club
Sunday School Cup Challenge
4 Person Scramble Format
**Players, Sponsors &
Volunteers Needed.**
Registration information
coming soon.

OLDER ADULT MINISTRY

GADABOUTS

Wednesday, July 8

Vince Evans will explore the history of
the Alta Vista Cemetery in Gainesville.



STUDENT MINISTRY



Students take a moment to pose for a group picture while attending GAP this past week. This group was GFUMC's second group to attend this summer. 1st row: Abi Bailleite, Briana Corrao, Alyssa Ransom, Kaitlin Burchett, Emily McCoun, Charleston Troutman. 2nd row: Logan Gruenenfelder, Rob Miller, Kyle Steigerwalt, Sam Jones, Kari Butts, Sarah Beth Tankersley, Emilie Norton, Kristin Money, Sara Anne McCoun, Lizzie Webster, Katie Finnegan. 3rd row: Spenser Gruenenfelder, Jake Webster, Pearce Gruenenfelder. Not Pictured: Heather Marshall, Kathryn Webster, Ricky Smith, Staci Doster, David Burchett.

THE BEACON - SINGLES MINISTRY

TALENT SHOWCASE

Friday, July 10

Dinner begins at 6 p.m.

Talent Showcase begins at 7 p.m.



We are doing a Talent Showcase with **Ricke Hall** as our emcee. Please come prepared to share your talent or just enjoy the talents of others! Remember that there are many different types of talent. All are equally important and wonderful!!!

We would appreciate advance notice from those who would like to participate, BUT will gladly sign you up on that night. Think about what you can share with us on this special night. You won't get another chance for a more accepting and gracious audience. Your host for the night is **Jean McCorlew**, and menu is hotdogs, baked beans, cole slaw, chips, and dessert.

PRAYER PAGER MINISTRY



*Let these people know
that you are thinking of
and praying for them.*

Instructions for Prayer Pagers:
Pray! Dial the pager number of the
person for whom you have prayed.
You will hear 3 beeps.
Dial 111# and then hang up.

Diana Cindea

Lora Cooley's friend
770.201.0121

Margot Mickle
770.201.0320

Brad Morris

Lee Highsmith's friend
770.201.0626

Faye Shadburn

770.201.0429

Katie Tulin

1.800.225.3412

We have received additional prayer pagers.
If you, or someone you know would benefit from
this wonderful prayer ministry, please contact
Rev. Wendy Cordova at 770.536.2341.



2009 UMW Mission Project
Cookson Hills
Health Resource Center

PATRIOTIC DAY



Thanks to all those who donated and/or delivered
cupcakes for this year's Cupcake Brigade. More than
100 cupcakes were delivered to veterans in 9 area
assisted-living or nursing homes in Hall County.
Picture frames decorated by our GFUMC children
also were delivered to the veterans.

Flotilla winners were 1st place: Sean and Laura
Sumner, 2nd place: Eliza Baker. Thank you to our
flotilla judges, Elizabeth Embry and Gerald Thurman.
All children (and some adults too) received a prize for
competing in the costume contest.

-Vicki Bailey

SCHOOL SUPPLIES COLLECTION

July 12 - 19

School is starting soon. Be God's caring hands in action by donating items
students will need as they start the new school year. Items are listed below. Please
place donations in the boxes located in the Gathering Room, at the rear entrance
of the Sanctuary, and at the MAC entrance. Don't have time to go shopping? We
will gladly accept donations and do the shopping for you. Make checks payable
to GFUMC, with a notation on the check for "school supplies."



#2 pencils (yellow - no designs)
3 hole pencil pack for notebook
3 ring binder (1/2 inch, 1 inch, 2.5 inch, 3 inch)
Baby wipes
Backpack (plain, solid color)
Black/white non-spiral composition notebook
Clipboard
Colored pencils
Crayons (8 count or 24 count)
Disinfectant wipes
Dry erase markers
Erasers
Glue sticks

Hand sanitizer
Lined 3x5 index cards
Loose-leaf paper (wide-ruled)
Markers (10 count, classic colors)
Pencil box
Pocket folders (solid colors)
Pocket folders with brads (solid colors)
School supply box (6x8)
Scissors (blunt end and regular (adult))
Spiral bound wide ruled notebook
Tabbed subject dividers
White school glue
Zipper bags (gallon and quart size)

A NEW SONG

*Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth,
burst into jubilant song with music. Psalm 98:4*

What would it look like if we at GFUMC just burst into song because we were so full of joy for the LORD? The halls would be alive with the sound of music! On Sunday mornings starting at 8 a.m. our halls are alive with the sound of music. The Living Waters Praise Team begins rehearsal, and jubilant song fills the halls of our church. This dedicated group of musicians has served the congregation at Living Waters for more than a year. They continue to grow in their skill and their faith. Some team members have even composed original songs to bring to worship. Two weeks ago, a gospel choir made up of church members sang an original spiritual called *In Step with the Spirit*. God is moving in a powerful way in Living Waters. It is an exciting time!

Summer is a great time to try new worship experiences. Living Waters meets at 9:30 a.m. and 10:55 a.m. in the Reception Hall. The attire is casual, the spirit is welcoming and loving, and the worship is authentic and relevant. I invite you to share the excitement as we worship and honor our God who is so worthy to be praised.

Michelle Alexander, Music Ministry Assistant



CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!!!
Construction Start Date: July 11, 2009

GFUMC is partnering with Habitat for Humanity, Grace Episcopal, First Presbyterian Church and First Baptist Church to build its next Habitat home for a deserving family. This is a great volunteer opportunity for individuals or small groups. No construction experience is required as Habitat provides same day, on-site training. This is a great team-building experience that you're sure to love! GFUMC is also responsible for providing lunch for 20-25 volunteers on Saturdays, July 25 and August 22. Please contact **Holly Owens** at howens0306@gmail.com or 678.316.0117 to volunteer to build or provide lunch.

Calendar

JULY 5 - 12, 2009

SUNDAY - July 5

8:30 Lakeside Worship
9:30 Living Waters Praise & Worship
9:45 At the Master's Feet Combined Class
9:45 Sunday School
10:55 Living Waters Praise & Worship
10:55 Sanctuary Worship

MONDAY - July 6

8:00 Fitness Club
9:00 Emmaus Prayer Group
9:00 Methodist Men Cooking
9:15 Aerobics
10:15 AOA Aerobics
11:30 JumpStart (for youth in grades 6-12)
11:45 Emmaus Reunion Group
7:30 Men's Basketball

TUESDAY - July 7

8:00 Fitness Club
8:30 Intercessory Prayer Group
9:00 Christ Centered Yoga
9:15 Aerobics
9:30 Believers Band Practice
11:00 Transforming Discipleship Bible Study
6:00 Believers Band Practice
6:30 Transforming Discipleship Bible Study
7:00 Compel - College Age Worship
7:00 UMW: Mission Action Meeting

WEDNESDAY - July 8

8:00 Fitness Club
9:15 Aerobics
11:00 Gadabouts
3:00 Bridge
6:00 Emmaus Prayer Group
6:00 Living Waters Bible Study
6:00 Refresh/Recharge
6:15 Accountability Group
6:15 PHASES Accountability Groups
7:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsal
7:15 Living Waters Rehearsal

THURSDAY - July 9

8:00 Fitness Club
9:00 Christ Centered Yoga
10:00 Prayer Quilts
5:30 GDS Golf Tournament Meeting

FRIDAY, July 10

9:00 Fitness Club
9:15 Aerobics (Nursery provided)
10:15 AOA Aerobics
6:00 The Beacon Talent Show
7:15 Emmaus

SATURDAY, July 11

9:00 Emmaus

SUNDAY - July 12

8:30 Lakeside Worship
9:30 Living Waters Praise & Worship
9:45 At the Master's Feet Combined Class
9:45 Sunday School
10:55 Living Waters Praise & Worship
10:55 Sanctuary Worship
5:00 The Harbor (for youth in grades 6-12)
7:00 MSL: Methodist Sports League
(for youth in grades 6-12)

LIVING WATERS T-SHIRTS
Available for \$7. Call Wendy
Cordova in the Church
Office at 70.536.2341.

COMBINED ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL



AT THE MASTER'S FEET:
THE LIFE AND TEACHINGS OF JESUS
Sundays in June and July
10 a.m. in the Adult Lobby
Come early for fellowship,
coffee, and donuts at 9:45 a.m.

July 12

*Value Investing with
Jesus Christ, Registered
and Licensed
Investment Advisor
Matthew 13:44-46,
Matthew 6:33
Jody & Lora Cooley*

July 5

Through the Roof
Mark 2:1-12
Dr. Steve Winter

Contact Us

If you have an emergency after office hours, on the weekend, or over a holiday, and need to speak with a pastor, please call the Church Office at 770.536.2341. The voice mail recording gives you the option to select an emergency contact. Press "5" and follow the instructions. Thank you.

Pastoral Staff at Gainesville First United Methodist Church:

Name	Title	ext.	Email
Rev. David Burchett	Director of Student Ministry	115	dburchett@gfumc.com
Rev. Wendy Cordova	Pastor of Evangelism & Lay Ministry	135	wcordova@gfumc.com
Rev. Debby Fox	Pastor of Christian Education & Discipleship	149	dfox@gfumc.com
Rev. Tom Jones	Pastor of Congregational Care & Older Adults	119	tjones@gfumc.com
Dr. Terry Walton	Senior Pastor	109	twalton@gfumc.com
Dr. Steve Winter	Executive Pastor	141	swinter@gfumc.com

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Church Office Phone: 770.536.2341 • Fax: 770.534.7914

Website: www.gfumc.com • Preschool Phone: 770.534.0409

CARE AND COUNSELING CENTER of Gainesville



You are not alone. Counseling can help and heal. Call 770.533.5702 for an appointment or for more information.

DEVOTION & PRAYER LINE

Call 678-343-2733 to hear a brief devotional and prayer from one of the pastors of GFUMC. Prayer requests are forwarded to the pastoral staff.



UNABLE TO ATTEND WORSHIP SERVICES?

Listen to the radio broadcast of the 10:55 a.m. Traditional Worship Service on AM 1240 WGG.

LISTEN ONLINE!

Sermons are now available at www.gfumc.com/sermons.



2780 Thompson Bridge Road
Gainesville, Georgia 30506

BRING LAKESIDE - INSIDE!

Join us for Living Waters worship every Sunday this summer at 9:30 a.m. and 10:55 a.m. in our Reception Hall. Wear your flip-flops, bring your coffee, and come worship with us in your casual lakeside attire!! Join us for great music, good fellowship, and worship that is informal, intimate, relevant, and meaningful.



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